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## NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Education

### **EDUCATION MINISTER HONOURS AWARD-WINNING PRINCIPAL**

VICTORIA – Arbutus middle school principal Chris Harvey joined Education Minister Shirley Bond in the legislature today for an Education Week ceremony in recognition of his Canada's Outstanding Principal Award.

"The Victoria school district and the Province are very fortunate to be able to draw on the leadership and knowledge Chris has," said Bond. "His passion for education has inspired students for decades."

Harvey began his teaching career 30 years ago in Bella Coola, working as an elementary and secondary school educator before starting his administrative career as principal at Bella Coola elementary. He has spent the last 17 years in the Greater Victoria school district, where he has been principal of several schools, including the reconfigured Arbutus middle school.

Harvey has maintained a teaching focus during most of his career and is currently teaching a Math 8 class. In addition to being heavily involved in the district's middle school development, Harvey was the co-chair of last year's Middle Years Association of B.C. annual conference. In August, Chris will begin his new position as associate superintendent in the Greater Victoria school district.

"I'd like to thank Mr. Harvey for his many years of dedication and service in the education system," said Oak Bay-Gordon Head MLA Ida Chong. "This award recognizes the tremendous work that Chris has done over the past 30 years."

"Chris Harvey is a truly remarkable educator and great principal. His vision and leadership builds staff confidence, inspires students to strive to do their best, involves parents and serves as a model for his colleagues," said Michael McEvoy, chair of the Greater Victoria school board. "He is a true instructional leader and we consider ourselves very lucky to work with him."

Chris Harvey is among 32 national recipients of the Canada's Outstanding Principals award, an initiative of The Learning Partnership, a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to championing a strong public education system in Canada.

- 2 -

The Canada's Outstanding Principals program honours the extraordinary contributions of dynamic education leaders in publicly funded schools. Principals who have made a measurable difference in the lives of their students and their own local communities and help ensure that Canada's young people continue to receive a quality education have been selected from across the country for the prestigious honour.

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